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MINUTES
OF
OVERSEAS TRAINING MATERIALS REVIEW COMMITTEE MEETING

1400 HRS., 4 MAY 1951
RM. 204, R&S BLDG.

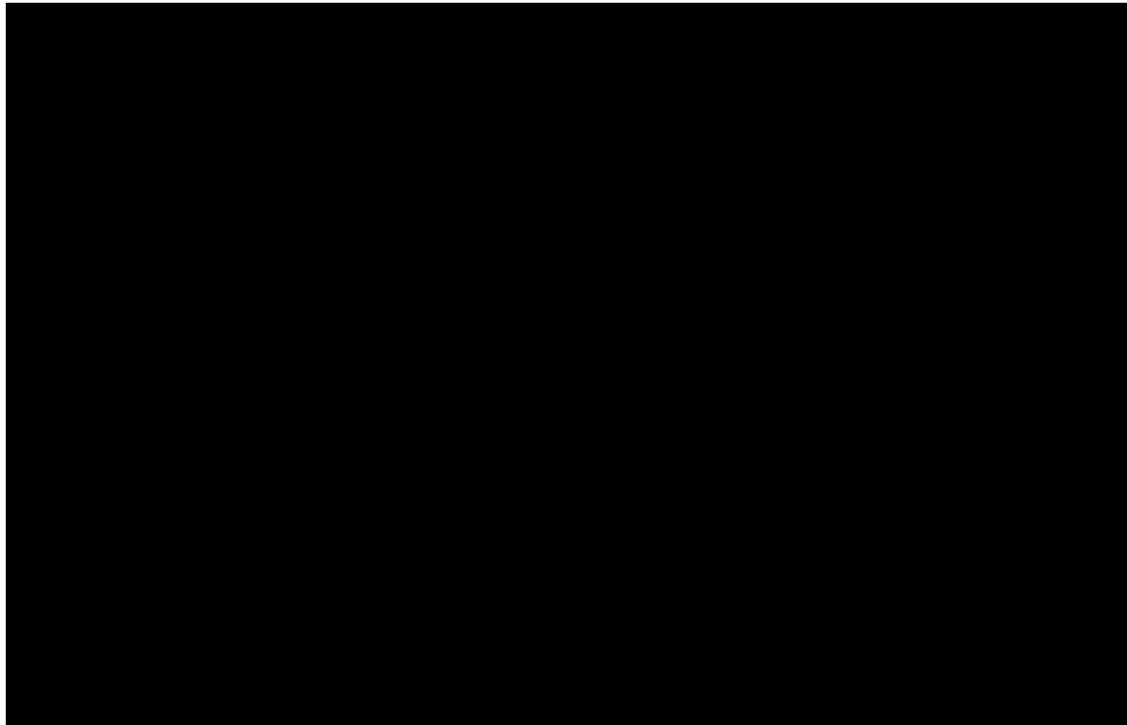
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Present: Messrs. [REDACTED]

1. The Committee considered the training materials which had been collected by TMS/TRD to satisfy the request of Chief, FDM dated 30 March 1951. Of the 35 papers, varying in length from 3 to 103 pages, and in classification from Restricted to Secret, 33 were approved upon cursory examination.

2. The following papers were disapproved:

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3. In connection with the approved materials, the Committee noted that certain TRD file code numbers had not been removed. These instances were marked for deletion prior to delivery of the materials to FDM.

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4. It was decided that Mr. [REDACTED] would return the approved materials to TMS for the indicated deletions and subsequent delivery to FDM. At the same time, Mr. [REDACTED] will inform TMS of the disapproval of the two papers mentioned above and the reasons therefor.

5. As a result of the discussion held in connection with the material considered at this meeting, the Committee desires to put itself on record in regard to the makeshift nature of the present system for preparing overseas training materials and the consequent limitations on the Committee's ability to discharge its responsibilities properly.

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6. The training materials which are submitted to the Committee do not constitute materials which have been designed or adapted for overseas use. Rather they are materials designed and adapted for headquarters training of staff officers in the United States. Thus the materials abound in symbols and designations which should not be sent abroad. Further, a seemingly innocuous paper may contain within it a sentence or a paragraph which it would not be desirable to send overseas. The volume of material which is continuously being pulled from TRD files for dispatch makes it impossible for the Committee to give it careful and detailed scrutiny. Within the bounds of the cursory examination which it is possible for the Committee to make, it has been sought to indicate necessary deletions (which have been scissored out by TMS) and to disapprove papers which are so obviously unfit for dispatch as to make deletions impracticable. However, the Committee realizes that this system is not foolproof and wishes to so state for the record.

7. The obvious remedy would be a unit in TRD charged with the responsibility of preparing and/or adapting training materials specifically for overseas use. Such a unit could be briefed by the Committee as to general limitations and restrictions. While the materials were in course of preparation such a unit could consult with the Committee in individual cases where guidance might be required. The Committee's final review and approval of overseas training materials thus prepared or adapted could be based upon informed opinion and workable practice.

8. It is recognized that TRD does not currently have the personnel to form such a unit. In this situation the Committee wishes to express for the record the fact that the present system is a makeshift one to meet a current exigency, and that its own practice is consequently of a stopgap nature.

9. Due to the fact that TRD has not the personnel or facilities to prepare and/or adapt training materials for the overseas training of indigenous agents, as opposed to American staff officers, the Committee understands that one or more OSO/OPC operating divisions are preparing or adapting training materials for use overseas. The Committee does not know whether or not such materials will be submitted to it for review, since the Committee was organized primarily for the protection insofar as possible of TRD materials.

10. The Committee does not know what degree of coordination and/or centralization of effort, if any, is being effected by the operating divisions which are preparing training materials for dispatch overseas. Nor does the Committee know what degree of control, if any, such divisions propose to exercise over the handling of such materials. While the Committee does not have specific knowledge, it seems probable that materials prepared or adapted by the operating divisions for overseas use will be based, in some measure at least, upon TRD materials currently in headquarters use.

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11. It was the sense of the Committee that a copy of these minutes be delivered to Chief, TRD and Chief, Staff C so that such officers may be apprised of the situation and considerations above set forth, and may, if they deem it necessary or advisable, take appropriate action to secure a general review of the overseas training materials problem.

There being no further business, the Committee adjourned at 1610 hours.

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